



Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell<sub>LLP</sub>

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## LOCKE LORD BISSELL & LIDDELL CHICAGO ATTORNEYS NAMED RECIPIENTS OF THE CENTER FOR DISABILITY & ELDER LAW'S EAMON SHANNON SPECIAL EDUCATION AWARD

(CHICAGO) March 26, 2009 – Matthew J. Kalas and Helen Din, attorneys based in the Chicago office of Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell, and David C. McLauchlan, a former Partner at the Firm, have been named recipients of the Center for Disability & Elder Law's Eamon Shannon Special Education Award. The attorneys were specifically honored for actively helping the family of a special needs child gain access to an appropriate special education program. The school district had refused to consider the child eligible for any relief, but through the commitment and efforts of the attorneys, which culminated in a four-day due process trial, the school district was required to accommodate the child's unique needs.

An attorney in Locke Lord's Litigation Department and Aviation Practice Group, Kalas has experience in aviation, product liability and transportation matters across multiple jurisdictions in state and federal trial and appellate courts. He has assisted in the defense of aircraft lessors, manufacturers, owners and operators, repair facilities, and component product manufacturers in general and commercial aviation disaster cases. Kalas has also represented individual, municipal and corporate defendants in commercial disputes and civil litigation. He received his law degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law, and his Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

Din is a member of the Firm's business litigation and arbitration department. She received her law degree from the University of Illinois, where she also earned her Master of Accounting Science and Bachelor of Science in Accountancy.

Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP is a full-service, national law firm with offices in Atlanta, Austin, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Sacramento, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. With a vast geographic scope, and a national reputation in complex litigation, regulatory and transactional work, Locke Lord is focused on achieving client success as a team. Among Locke Lord's many strong practice areas are appellate, aviation, corporate, class action litigation, employee benefits, energy, environmental, financial services, health care, insurance and reinsurance industries, intellectual property, labor and employment, public law, real estate, REIT, tax and technology.

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